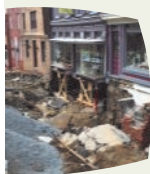




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# Community *notes*

## Wilde Lake Middle Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Celebrate the opening of the new net-zero Wilde Lake Middle School (WLMS) by joining the community on Sunday, January 8 at 1:00 p.m. for the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. After the ribbon cutting, there will be an opportunity to tour the new school building, allowing parents and members of the community to explore all of the new net-zero features and the state of the art learning environment. For more information, contact WLMS at 410-313-6957 and for more details about the new building, visit the school system's [website](#).

## Family First: Parenting Series

Join the Howard County Family Institute with a special series designed for parents and guardians raising children from birth to age eight. Learn about child development, how to encourage self-esteem and good behavior, positive guidance and discipline, and how to keep children safe and healthy. Register [online](#) or by phone (410-313-1940).

### January Sessions

**When:** Wednesdays, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

**Location:** Ellicott City 50+ Fitness Center (9411 Frederick Road)

[Exploring Childhood Stages of Development](#)—January 11

A child passes through numerous stages over time. By knowing what to expect, parents are better able to respond to new behaviors. Explore the ages and stages of child development in several areas such as cognitive, social-emotional, and language.

[Keeping Kids Healthy](#)—January 25

Learn how to choose healthy snacks, meals and beverages for children. Discuss common eating concerns such as picky eaters or refusal to eat.

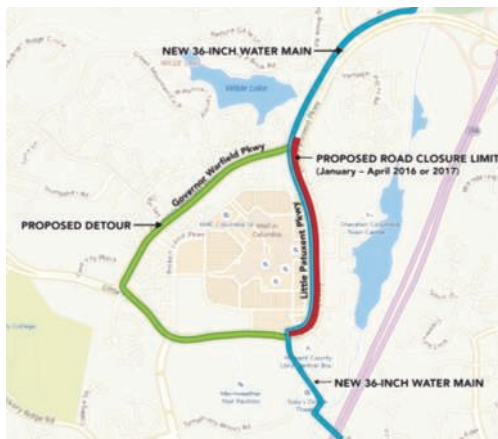
## Greetings

Happy New Year! This weekend, we say “so long” to Symphony of Lights. If you wish to extend the holiday season a little longer, plan a visit before it closes and help Howard County General Hospital Foundation. Click [here](#) for the details.

*Mary Kay*

## Little Patuxent Parkway Closure

A construction project is underway to install a water main along MD175 and Little Patuxent Parkway in Columbia. The project will include the installation of approximately 9,000 linear feet of 36-inch water pipe to provide redundancy to the Howard County water distribution system. The majority of the work will take place along the southbound shoulder of Little Patuxent Parkway between Columbia Road and South Entrance Road.



Weather permitting, the project is expected to be completed by late April 2017. A portion of southbound Little Patuxent Parkway in the vicinity of the project will be closed from approximately

January 17, 2017 to mid-March 2017. During the closure, traffic will follow a marked detour using Governor Warfield Parkway. For questions or concerns about Capital Project W-8296, please contact Lisa Brightwell, Public Works Customer Service, at 410-313-3440 or via [email](#).

## Spanish Brass Comes to Columbia

[Candlelight Concert Society](#) continues its 44th season with three performances by the internationally acclaimed Spanish Brass, a dynamic brass quintet heralded for their technical mastery and creative choreography. The ensemble performs on Saturday, January 21 at 8:00 p.m., featuring a diverse repertoire of styles ranging from the baroque to jazz era.



Spanish Brass also presents "Brass, Brass, Brass!" – two 55-minute performances for families, as part of the CandleKids Series on January 22 at 2:00 and 4:00 p.m. All performances are held in the Horowitz Center's Smith Theatre.

## Wilde Readings with HoCoPoLitSo

[Wilde Readings](#) with the Howard County Poetry & Literature Society is Howard County's only monthly reading and open mic series. Ann Bracken hosts a night of poetry with Grace Cavalieri (author of new book *WITH*) and Merrill Leffler (Takoma Park's Poet Laureate) on Tuesday, January 17, from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. at the Columbia Art Center. All are welcome to participate in the open mic. Please prepare no more than five minutes of performance time/two poems. Sign up in advance by calling the Columbia Arts Center (410- 730-0075), or sign up at the door. Light refreshments will be served. Books by both featured authors will be available for sale.

## Preschool/Child Care Information Fair

Howard County's Department of Community Resources and Services hosts its annual Preschool/Child Care Information Fair, "Children On Board," on Sunday, January 29 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Ten Oaks Ballroom (5000 Signal Bell Lane, Clarksville). Admission is free; however, attendees are asked to bring a nonperishable food item or unopened pack of diapers to donate to the Howard County Food/Diaper Bank.

Coordinated by the Department's Office of Children and Families, "Children On Board" provides parents, guardians, grandparents and child care personnel with "one stop shopping" for information on child care, pre-school and summer programs, as well as the opportunity for personal contact with teachers and program directors. Representatives from community service organizations focused on Howard County's young children will also be on hand to provide information to interested parents. Attendees will have the opportunity to attend free informational sessions on "How to Choose an Early Childhood Program" offered each hour by the Parents As Teacher's Program. For more information about the Fair, contact the Office of Children and Families at 410-313-1940 or via [email](#).



## Managing Meltdowns

Do tantrums, power struggles and misbehavior make daily life difficult in your household? The Family Institute hosts workshops in Behavior Basics and Managing Meltdowns. SEFEL (Social Emotional Foundations of Early Learning) is a comprehensive, research based approach that considers all of the factors that impact a child and family. Learn how to teach your child new skills to replace challenging behaviors. Learn how to set the stage to decrease negative behaviors from happening in the first place and what to do when they do occur. Leave this 3-part workshop with skills and resources that you can use immediately that will help you feel more confident in your parenting. Register [online](#) or by phone (410-313-1940).

**When:** Thursdays, January 12, 19, & 26  
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.  
**Cost:** \$18.00  
**Location:** Roger Carter Center  
3000 Milltowne Drive  
Ellicott City, MD 20143

## Recycling Tips

The Bureau of Environmental Services offers the following useful information and encourages residents to make the most of available recycling programs:



- Special [Household Hazardous Waste](#) drop-off days are on Saturdays, January 7, February 4 and March 4 at Alpha Ridge Landfill (2350 Marriottsville Road, Marriottsville)
- The last day of curbside [yard trim collection](#) is Friday, January 13. After that date, residents should take yard trim material to The Alpha Ridge Landfill WoodWaste Area for recycling. Yard trim collection will resume the first week in April. Residents in the [Feed The Green Bin](#) area receive curbside yard trim & food scrap collection year-round.
- Your participation in the Merry Mulch program keeps thousands of trees out of the landfill. Visit the Merry Mulch [website](#) for drop-off locations. If you receive curbside collection, set your tree at the curb on your recycling day through Friday, January 13.

## Student Loan Forum

The Office of Consumer Protection, Consumer Advisory Board, and Howard Community College (HCC) co-host "[Know Before You Owe](#) – A Student Loan Forum and Resource Fair" on Wednesday, January 18 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. This event, located in Room 400 of the Student Services Hall at HCC (10901 Little Patuxent Parkway) is free and open to the public. Panelists offer guidance for prospective students and families to make informed decisions on how to finance higher education, shop for student loans, manage their money, and avoid consumer scams surrounding higher education. Advance [registration](#) is encouraged for those attending in person and is required to participate via webcast.

## Earth Forum: Following the Flood

The upcoming [Earth Forum](#) topic focuses on Ellicott City, MD and the aftermath of the flood of 2016. Community leaders James Robey, Mark Richmond, and Phillip Nichols share their perspectives and insights as they present "The Ellicott City Flood: A Six-Month Status Report." Refreshments, information tables, and three workshops will fill out the program that held on Sunday, January 15 from 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church of Howard County (9325 Presbyterian Circle, Columbia). The program is free and open to all interested persons. Childcare provided for infants and toddlers. [Email](#) or call 410-730-3545 for more information.

## Nominee for Excellence in Children's Programs



The Howard County Office of Children and Families seeks nominees that have made a positive impact on the lives of Howard County children for the 18th annual "[Celebrating Successes for Children](#)" awards program. The Celebrating Successes awards program

honors people, programs or businesses that make a difference and serve children in one of the following categories:

- Infants and Toddlers (0-3 years)
- Preschool-Age Children (3-5 years)
- Elementary-Age Children (Kindergarten through 5th)
- Middle School-Age Children (6th through 8th)
- High School-Age Children (9th through 12th)
- Mixed-Aged Group
- Making a Difference Youth Award
- Family-Friendly Business Award (a Howard County business – NOT child care – that stands out because of its policies or service to children and families)

Individual nominee need not be residents of Howard County, however they must serve Howard County children. Program or business nominees must be located in Howard County.

Nominations are due Friday, March 3 and forms are available [online](#). For more information, or to request a nomination form in an alternate format, contact the Office of Children and Families at 410-313-1940 or via [email](#). Nominees will be recognized during the County's "Celebrating Successes for Children" ceremony on Wednesday, April 26 at Ten Oaks Ballroom (5000 Signal Bell Lane, Clarksville).

## Phantasmagorical

This mixed media exhibit features collage works by Barbara Marley and sculptures by Brad Blair. Both artists create highly detailed, imaginative work. The exhibit runs January 13 to February 27 at the Howard County Arts Center (8510 High Ridge Road, Ellicott City). Click [here](#) for more information.

## Upcoming Events

### New Year Nature Hike & Cider-Sipping

**Saturday, January 7, 2:30—4:00 p.m.**

**Robinson Nature Center**

6692 Cedar Lane, Columbia, MD 21044

Ages 6 years and up. Finish the first week of 2017 with family fun including learning how to make kid-friendly wassail (mulled cider) and enjoying a guided winter hike. Try a range of winter activities to help your family stay active and keep the kids entertained during the chilly days ahead. Children must be accompanied with a registered adult. Registration available [online](#).

### Creative Imaging Workshop Reception

**Sunday, January 8, 3:00—5:00 p.m.**

**Bernice Kish Gallery at Slayton House**

10400 Cross Fox Lane, Columbia, MD 21044

Enjoy a free public reception with refreshments and music. Explore the creative works of nine local photographers as they seek to perfect their craft.

### Bitter Memories: The Fall of Saigon

**Monday, January 9, 7:00—8:00 p.m.**

**Columbia Arts Center**

6100 Foreland Garth, Columbia, MD 21045

Tom Glenn, undercover signals intelligence operative and recipient of the Meritorious Medal, describes how he was able to assure that none of his subordinates were killed or wounded in the 1975 attack on [Saigon](#).

### Harvard Student to Speak at HC DrugFree Meeting

**Monday, January 9, 5:30-7:00 p.m.**

**Teen Center, The Barn, Oakland Mills Village Center**

HC DrugFree's Teen Advisory Council (TAC) welcomes Athena Kan, a graduate of River Hill High School, an 18-year old sophomore at Harvard, and a former active member of TAC, to share her experiences at college, discuss drug and alcohol issues on the college campus, and answer questions.

Community service hours are available for attendance at TAC meetings. Free pizza is provided so teens must RSVP to [Admin@hcdrugfree.org](mailto:Admin@hcdrugfree.org).



Mary Kay Sigaty

[mksigaty@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:mksigaty@howardcountymd.gov)

Twitter: [@MaryKaySigaty](#)

Howard County Council

3430 Courthouse Drive

Ellicott City, MD 21043

(410) 313-2001

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